

The Illinois Education Foundation (IEF) Signature Scholarship is designed to provide financial, academic, and student support to low-income, high-potential community college students. IEF scholarships combine “last dollar” financial assistance along with a full set of academic support services — including mandatory mentoring, tutoring and academic advising — to empower more Illinois college students to achieve their degrees and reach their full potential.

Who is eligible?

- Graduating high school seniors and current community college students with a 2.0 GPA or returning adult students;
- Applicants must be pursuing their first degree/certificate;
- Applicants must be eligible for in-district tuition rates;
- Applicants must be enrolled as full-time students (a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester);
- Applicants must be U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents eligible for federal and state financial aid and demonstrate proof of filing the FAFSA;
- Applicants should be highly motivated and committed to their own academic and professional success.
- Applicant must disclose any prior police record however, this will not necessarily result in disqualification.

Required Documents:

Completed scholarship application
Two (2) letters of recommendation (from a non-relative)
Two short essays
Student Aid Report (SAR) from a completed FAFSA
Academic Transcript
Resume
Placement Exam Results*

*Required of applicants enrolling in a community college for the first time only.

Award Amount:

The IEF scholarship provides “last dollar” financial assistance which covers the remaining balance of tuition and fees, if any, after financial aid has been applied. IEF Scholars also receive a need-based stipend award of up to \$750 per semester to cover books and supplies. Scholars also benefit from regular engagement with staff and mentors committed to supporting scholars personal and professional success.

When should I apply?

The scholarship application is available on our website www.iledfoundation.org

Application Deadline:

Deadline to apply is April 30, 2010 for continuing community college students, adult individuals who are enrolling in a community college for the first time, and adults returning to college to complete their first degree or certificate. The deadline for graduating high school seniors is May 15th, 2010.

Scholarship Documents:

Application form available on our website only.

Scholar Website:

www.iledfoundation.org

Contact Information:

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